

TERESA LEGER FERNÁNDEZ
3RD DISTRICT, NEW MEXICO

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1510 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
P: (202) 225-6190

SANTA FE OFFICE:
120 S FEDERAL PL, SUITE 323
SANTA FE, NM 87501
P: (505) 428-4680

www.fernandez.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3103

COMMITTEE ON
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WORKFORCE

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES

RANKING MEMBER OF THE
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR INDIAN
AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the El Valle Community Center in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is El Valle Community Center, located at 11 Lost Pueblos Road Box 61 Villanueva, New Mexico 87583. The funding would be used for critical repairs and improvements to the El Valle Community Center in Villanueva, New Mexico. These include repair or replacement of roof, windows, insulation, and upgrades to infrastructure systems. These repairs will allow the community center to reliably continue its operations and expand staff and services.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the center's location in an unincorporated region prevents it from receiving financial support from a municipality. That is the standard source of funding for local libraries. Without community institutions like the El Valle Community Center, small rural towns such as Villanueva will further struggle to retain their residents and lose their rural way of life.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress